

inestimable value in the veins of a young and growing country. The market is very cheap, the war has shown that Europe is not badly stocked. Where is the prudent buyer who would sow a grain of mustard seed and reap a harvest?

H. O.

Berry, T. W. *The Training of Youth—a Treatise on the Training of Adolescents.* T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd.; 1919; pp. 203.

THIS book gives many practical suggestions for strengthening and guarding the character of the adolescent and for combating the many evils to which he is subject. The book deals mainly with the youth of the working classes (though many of the ideas might well be adapted to a wider social circle), who, after attending the elementary school, begins at an early age to be a wage-earner. Great importance is wisely attached to the manner in which leisure hours are spent. Play-centres, organised recreation of all types, both indoor and outdoor, are recommended and dealt with. By organised games the author points out that the regimentation of children during their leisure is not intended, but that there is a need for competent teachers to show them how to play and read, while at the same time encouraging self-discipline and self-development. To such teachers the following books are mentioned as being valuable for giving an insight into the working of the adolescent brain:—*Youth—its Education, Regimen and Hygiene*, by Dr. Stanley Hall; *Sinister Street*, by Compton Mackenzie; and *Manchester Bogs*, by Charles Russell.

The chapters on "Juvenile Employment" and "Vocational Training" indicate what has been done by the educational authorities and by the Government on those lines, but draw attention to the fact that State interest should be to augment rather than substitute the parents' responsibility. One would have been glad for the author to have drawn out more definitely methods by which the parents of all classes could help their children through personal effort in directing their taste and the employment of their leisure hours.

G. M. C.

Nicoll, MAURICE. *Dream Psychology.* Published by the Joint Committee of Henry Froude and Hodder and Stoughton at the Oxford University Press; price 6s.; pp. 194 + ix.

THE literature connected with dream interpretation is now fairly extensive, but the more popular works have tended to expound the doctrines of Freud.

In *Dream Psychology* the writer confessedly puts forward the point of view of Jung, although he is by no means a slavish supporter of the Zürich school. He shows why the dream has taken such a prominent place both in modern psychological theory and in medical practice. A very interesting comparison is drawn between the dream and the cartoon, a comparison which will render some of the problems of dream interpretation much clearer. The part played by the unconscious in the life both of the neurotic and of the normal person is treated of and there is a clear exposition of the doctrine of complexes and their outward and visible expression. An interesting chapter is devoted to the relation between fantasy and rumour. To the reader unversed in psycho-analysis the usual interpretation of dreams, given in text-books, often seem unconvincing and arbitrary, and it cannot be said that Dr. Nicoll's are free from this same weakness; had one dream been used throughout the various chapters, and had it been analysed more and more deeply, both the method and the reason for the suggested interpretation would have been more intelligible. It is not suggested that a reader should be encouraged to base far-reaching conclusions on one dream, but that one dream in particular might be used as an illustration; however many dreams are taken the number could not possibly be adequate for anything more than illustration, and a more intensive study of one dream could not fail to be enlightening.

The book will, however, serve admirably as an introduction to this subject and the reader will be interested to see how many phenomena hitherto treated in isolation are related. While being of a controversial nature, it is written in a scientific and non-polemical spirit. M. S.

Coghlan, T. A., Government Statistician of New South Wales. *The Decline in the Birth-rate: An Essay in Statistics*. Sydney: William Applegate Gallick, Government Printer; 1903.

THIS is a most interesting and instructive essay. Mr. Coghlan had at his disposal the registrations of births in New South Wales since 1856, and he has treated these in a masterly manner and extracted from them all the information which they are able to afford. He tells us that the birth-rate (if we exclude children illegitimately born) has fallen from 34 per thousand in 1861 to about 24 per thousand in 1901. Illegitimate births during the same period have increased, but only so as to modify the birth-rate favourably in a very slight degree. If we take the dates of the births of all legitimate first-born children, the surprising fact is disclosed that a little less than one-third of them must have been conceived before marriage took place, and that therefore one-third of the marriages actually contracted were forced unions constrained by the discovery of the pregnancy of the intended bride. This proportion has, moreover, slightly increased during the last 40 years. The existence of a marked degree of sexual laxity in the manners of New South Wales is an obvious deduction from the figures in this essay. If we define fecundity as the capacity of bearing at least one child, then we find that the percentage of fecund marriages has fallen from 96.3 to 91.9, but this fall explains only a small part of the decline in the birth-rate. Mr. Coghlan uses the term "degree of fertility" to mean the number of children born per marriage; this is, of course, the most important factor affecting the birth-rate. This "fertility" has declined in the case of all nationalities of women making up the population except those of Irish birth. The decline is irrespective of religious beliefs, Roman Catholic women other than Irish showing the same decline as their sisters of other religious beliefs. Even the Australian born daughters of Irish women show this decline.

Mr. Coghlan's conclusion is that the decline in fertility is entirely due to the use of artificial checks on conception, and that the prevalence of this custom is a serious matter for an ambitious race of limited numbers striving to occupy and hold an empty continent like Australia, to which European emigration has almost ceased. E. W. M.

Hargrave, JOHN. *The Great War brings it Home*. London: Constable and Co.; 1919; price 10s. 6d. net; pp. 367.

THIS is an arresting work by a writer who should become well-known to eugenicists. As "White Fox" of the Scout Brotherhood, Mr. Hargrave, it is hardly too much to say, has captured the imagination of a generation of future parents in England.

In the first part of his present book he subjects the conventional environment of the human organism to a searching and on the whole a well-balanced criticism from the point of view of what he considers to be the permanent essentials of primitive life, exposing in so doing the worst perversions that have occurred in the development of human instinct.

But Mr. Hargrave has an essentially practical philosophy, and in the welter of works on reconstruction—that dire orgy of words—it is a relief to find that the second and larger part of his book is devoted to a vivid and coherent presentation of the outcome in practice of his ideals.

The national camping grounds, the open-air woodcraft schools, and the revolutionised methods of training in, and of testing, physical and mental efficiency, which he demands, would do a great deal, even within